USSN 09/855,403
Amendment responsive to Office Action mailed on September 13, 2005
December 13, 2005
A-1669

REMARKS

Claim 27 is canceled and claim 24 has been amended. Currently, claims 1-10, 13, 22-24, and 26 are pending in the application.

Applicants greatly appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 1-10, 13, 22, and 23 are allowed.

Claims 24, 26, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watt '571 in view of Gahwiler '512. Applicant respectfully traverses the grounds for this rejection. At the outset, it is noted that claim 27 has now been canceled, and its limitations inserted into independent claim 24. The rejection asserts that the Watt patent discloses an adapter 4 having a rigid end for snap fitting to the spacer 10, and a stretchable, flexible end to attach to various sized and shaped medication dispensers. Presumably, this is a reference to the Fig. 7 embodiment, which includes a member 8 for connecting to the drug delivery device 48. There is no disclosure, despite the Examiner's assertion, that the connection member is flexible, as recited in the claims, and particularly that it is a pliable boot, as is now specifically recited in claim 24. Moreover, it is not seen how the flange 38 of Gahwiler could be employed in the connection system shown by Watt, such that the claim limitations would be met. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections should be withdrawn and claims 24 and 26 allowed.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance, in view of the amendments and arguments presented above. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the number below, should any
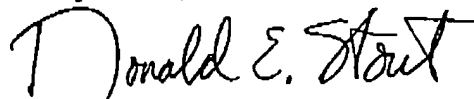
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further questions or issues need to be resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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